

The Brethren Evangelist

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ADDRESS,
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E. L. YODER, - Managing Editor.
H. R. HOLSINGER, Corresponding Ed.

ASHLAND, O., DEC. 16, 1885.

Let Us Raise the College Debt.

A well-wisher who says he is not a member of the Brethren Church in another place in this paper, announces his willingness to pay something toward removing the debt of Ashland College; a benevolent sister of Pennsylvania sends \$10 to us with the order to pay \$8.50 to the College; and we believe that there are many others, members of our Church and persons who are well wishers and sympathizers who will gladly come forward and do themselves the honor and relieve us by assisting to raise the debt; and remove this obstacle from the path of our onward progress.

The time has come when something must be speedily done. The brethren who have borne the burden for years can not bear it much longer. The debt must be raised, or the institution will go "under the hammer" to be sold to the highest bidder, several brethren will suffer financially, the EVANGELIST must go down in the general wreck which makes it a very serious matter to us, a stain will be fixed upon the Church that no subsequent good conduct can ever efface and upon every name that is honorably associated therewith, and Christian confidence will be burned out of many hearts.

Are we the church that lifts up hands in favor of better education and then close and clinch them when a few dollars are necessary to remove a debt on an excellent institution of learning, when our honor is at stake?

We say, No.

We believe there are a thousand responses, No.

Then let us pay the debt; remove from us that impediment that rises up before every plan that is formulated to broaden church work and our influence for good; remove from us that threatened stain upon our sacred honor, and vindicate our integrity as a Christian fraternity.

Let us relieve brother Holsinger who has been going about pleading with brethren to come forward and help to save the institution and relieve the brethren who have stood faithfully by it until this time, and give him an opportunity to choose a field of work that will be more pleasant, and more in harmony with his life work. He has sacrificed enough; he has borne the heat and burden of many a day, and a relief should be granted him from the discouragements, disappointments and annoyances that attend a mission such as he is engaged in.

OUR PLAN.

We have commenced a College Debt Liquidating Fund, which,

for convenience we have named the "EVANGELIST Fund." The form of the pledge, or subscription to this fund is given in the supplement with this number. The form contains a blank for the date, the number of dollars, and for the number of years you desire in which to pay the amount you subscribe. Every poor brother and sister possessing good health, in the church, is able to give five dollars or one dollar for five years toward paying the College debt. Those who are blessed with this world's goods, can give from \$5.00 to \$100.00 for each year for five years. You can write in whatever term of years you desire from one to ten.

After you have subscribed as your liberality and compassion have prompted you to do, then cut the blank from the other part of the supplement and return to the Brethren Pub. House. We will then publish the amount with the name of the giver, or the amount only, should you so desire, in the EVANGELIST; and we will keep a record of all pledges and then give them over to the treasurer of Ashland College, and those who prefer to do so, can make the payments when due through the EVANGELIST. Reports will be made from time to time, and in this way the Church will know exactly what is being done.

This plan offers an opportunity to every one to share in this good work; for if more is subscribed than is necessary to pay the debt, then the payments not due will not be collectible, and the brethren here will be relieved of paying all that they have subscribed, which is more than they can well afford.

Now brethren, let us all lay hold of this work at once and swell the amount of pledges to many thousand dollars at once, for it will only make the burden on each one lighter, and turn Ashland College over to the Church free of debt as a New Years gift, on the first day of Jan. 1886.

Pledge blanks will be furnished by mail to all who send in requests for them.

It is our Christian duty to give this matter our earnest attention at once, in this situation.

(Concluded on Supplement.)

Bro. McFaden's Questions.

1. The Scriptures do not say how many were counted in the original Church. We have in the English Language what is called Metonymy, which puts one thing for another, cause for effect, effect for cause, the container for the thing contained, an attribute or quality for the thing or person; and as the twelve apostles represented all there was of the first church it is no error to say that they were the first or original church.

Christ declared that upon this rock—Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God—he would build his church. I believe he built the twelve apostles, upon that rock first, and they constituted the original church. Judas, however, proved to be a bad stone, and the other eleven had to put a good one in his place when he tumbled off of the rock and bursted, before the building could go on. This was done shortly before the day of Pentecost. See Acts first chapter. Here were about one hundred and twenty in the congregation,

but, while they were disciples, they were as spectators, because Peter addressed the remaining ten apostles, because he says, 17th verse, "For he was numbered with us and had obtained part of this ministry," having reference to Judas.

2. We said that a part were added by baptism and part by letter. The Scriptures do not say that, they were all baptized. Several years ago I told an account of a meeting. I said so many were added to the church. I was asked how many were baptized. The answer was as many as were added to the church. I lied; several had been baptized years before and came by relation, I was ignorant of the truth; I thought baptizing and adding to the church meant the same thing.

3. The Scriptures say nothing about how many were baptized. Acts, 1:15, says there were about one hundred and twenty disciples: and "Disciple," means a follower or pupil, and does not necessarily mean that such a one was a member of the body of Christ in all cases.

4. Divine direction for baptism is found in Matthew, last chapter. Bro. Duke is handy with figures, and he can compute the number that a man is able to baptize before sunset, after coming together at 9 a. m. and preaching a long sermon. But this is foolishness.

Brethren take the scriptures as they read, and do not try to make them say what they do not.

Three thousand were added to the church—no one knows now how many of the number were baptized on the day of Pentecost.

In controversy the matter of the establishment of the Christian Church often arises, and a careful study of the Scriptures on this point is in order. If the Church of Jesus Christ was set up at Pentecost; then Footwashing and the Lord's Supper belong to the Law and not to the works of grace. If it was established before the Last Supper, then those institutions belong to the Christian Church. If the twelve apostles were not the original church, then it is strange to us why others did not participate in the last Supper; and still stranger that others were built on the rock with the apostles, and were excluded from the upper room, and the other favors and privileges that the twelve enjoyed.

Let these remarks be taken as was directed in the remarks to which the brother referred: as pointers to possible truth.

A. L. GARBER.

The Little Girl's Ten Cents.

We take great pride in making conspicuous the name of Minnie Rupert, grand child of Brother Hershberger, of Louisville, Ohio. She is only seven years old and has donated ten cents to the Mission and Educational funds. That amount will be placed with her name on the records provided for the purpose, and when she grows up to be a good and useful Christian, it will bring to her pleasant memories. Heaven, bless the child.

My wife's hands were very much swollen and distorted with rheumatism, and the pain was almost unendurable. After using several bottles of your Athlophoros the pain and swelling are gone and she is well. John B. Miller, 110 Kerr street, Columbus, O.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The College Debt is the great thing now; let us dispose of that at once.

Bro. Lee Haldeman has moved from Hastings, Nebraska, to Philadelphia, Pa.

The old year is nearly all and now is the time to work to give us a good list for next year.

The holidays are now on hand, and there will likely be a lull in field work for a short time.

The expectations are becoming brighter and brighter for a lively term at Ashland College next year.

Bro. Mason has decided to put the Home Pulpit out in first class style. It is a worthy publication, and we hope it can be made a success.

The College Prayer meeting is becoming more interesting. The students and our young members who are attending school, are working creditably in it.

Sister E. M. Stauffer writes that the Coventry Brethren S. S. is preparing for a Christmas exercise to take place on Dec. 27th, in the afternoon. An invitation is extended to all.

Four or five thousand dollars is a very small amount for 25,000 or 3,000 people to pay in five years. Now brethren let's put away the College debt before 1886 comes in.

Bro. S. A. Leedy, of Montevallo, Mo., writes that they will commence a meeting at Walnut Grove next Saturday evening. May the blessing of the Lord rest upon their efforts.

Every brother and sister is appointed a solicitor to secure subscriptions for the "EVANGELIST Fund," to pay the College debt. Send for blanks, and ask your friends and neighbors to subscribe and pay one, two, five or more dollars for five years.

Bro. J. H. Swihart commenced meetings near Flora, Ind., on Tuesday of last week. The notable "Hain't we right," man, I. J. Rosenberger, is in that vicinity. Bro. B. J. Gordon is on the war path too, and we expect a report of a victory from that quarter soon.

Our contributors will please be a little patient with us. We cannot publish everything promptly, because we are crowded for time to examine articles. Special announcements should be written on a separate piece of paper and then they will not escape our attention.

Under date of Dec. 7, Bro. Bashor says, during our meetings 14 were added to the church and on yesterday at Enon two more were added from the German Baptist, a bro. and a sister whose daughter was baptized on the Sunday before. The general interest in our cause is all we would wish, and others are almost persuaded. Bro. H. R. Holsinger spent a few days with us in his college work and succeeded in raising his subscription in this church several hundred dollars. He preached us some good sermons and left new friends on his list; all desired him to remain longer, and if he excels in any one thing it is in the systematic way he goes about his college work. Success to him till the last dollar is raised and paid.

The Evangelist College Fund.

Catharine Beer	8 50
W. C. Perry	\$100.00
I. Kilhefer	100.00
H. K. Myers	500.00
D. Bailey	200.00
A. L. Garber	200.00

Things in General, Some Things in Particular.

Pointed Talking—Some of my friends think I am too pointed in my writings and talking. Perhaps I am not pointed enough some times. How could I be other wise than pointed when I have had to fight jealousy, selfishness, prejudice, untruth and various forms of error. Talking around corners will not do if you would be understood. You must cut straight across, and if the chap does not get out of the way you must cut straight across any way. If any man is mean it is the mealy-mouthed man, the saintly looking individual, who talks one way and means another way.

Spiritual Clinkers—I could not get the fire to burn this morning, after shaking the grate until I thought all the red hot coals were together. I waited awhile, and still I could not get the fire I wanted. On investigation, I found a clinker in the stove; that removed, a good fire was soon burning and the room warmed. On looking into some churches you find the fire dull, the church gets a good shaking now and then through sermons by this brother and that, but still the fire does not burn hot. Investigate and you will find a spiritual clinker. They are the bane of some churches, and unless removed or broken up, the fire will go out entirely. Take out the clinker, shake together the coals, and you will warm poor frozen souls.

Not getting milk enough—A young couple of my acquaintance are raising their little one by the aid of a bottle; they found the child failing, and found the little thing was not getting milk enough—slowly starving to death. The supply was soon increased and all is well that ends well. Some children in the church are not getting milk enough; they are brought into the church, and after the revival, nothing is said in the way of instruction and encouragement by older members; they starve spiritually and go back to the world. Said a young lady who backslid, "I went to church after I joined but no person helped me, worldly friends paid me every attention and I drifted from one to the other." She did not get milk enough, could not eat strong meat, and starved to death. Such is the experience of many. Watch your spiritual children and see if they are getting milk enough.

Will brother G. answer the following questions based on his remarks in paper 47:

1. Where does the inspired writer say the twelve apostles were the original church, and all his other followers were not part of the original church?

2. Where does the inspired writer say part of the three thousand came by letter and part were added by baptism.

3. Where does the inspired writer say, that Christ and the disciples and John the Baptist baptized only about 2,400 or 2,500, leaving only five or six hundred to come by baptism on Pentecost?

4. Why was it impossible to baptize three thousand in one day under divine direction?

Let's have the scripture, not for controversy but to get at facts. JOHN DUKE.

The usual Holiday Excursion Rates will be made by the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad.